IN FRANCE, SOURCES DESCRIBED AS "FRENCH OFFICIALS":

REMARKS IN HOUSTON ON MARCH 19

- --APPRECIATED THE PRESIDENT'S "MORE CONCILIATORY STANCE," PARTICULARLY HIS PRIASE OF FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT'S CALL FOR MODERATION IN THE US-EUROPEAN DISPUTE.
- -- CONCLUDE THAT FRANCE HAS ADOPTED "A STRATEGY OF COURTEOUS DIPLOMACY," BUT ADD THAT THE "RESTRAINED" FRENCH RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS IN CHICAGO ON MARCH 15 MADE IT CLEAR THAT FRANCE "WILL NOT BE STAMPEDED" INTO CHANGING ITS OWN IDEAS ON FRENCH AND EUROPEAN INDEPENDENCE.

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FRENCH JOURNALISTS WROTE THAT THE PRESIDENT:

- -- "HAS EATEN HIS WORDS" AND "RETREATED" ON TROOP WITHDRAWALS

 BECAUSE THESE WOULD HAVE DISASTROUS LONG-TERM EFFECTS FOR

 THE UNITED STATES.
- --WARNED EUROPE AND "AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION" AGAINST

 ISOLATIONISM, TELLING HIS "AT LEAST 50 MILLION TELEVISION

 VIEWERS" THAT EUROPE'S SECURITY IS OF DIRECT CONCERN TO THE

 UNITED STATES.
- --WILL NOT VISIT EUROPE UNTIL THE NINE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY UNDERSTAND THE US POSITION BETTER.
- -- "PROBABLY HAS REASON TO USE THE STICK AND CARROT ALTERNATMELY" BUT MUST RECOGNIZE THAT NOT ALL THE MODERATE EUROPEAN
 REACTIONS TO HIS CHICAGO STATEMENTS WERE FAVORABLE TO THE
 US POINT OF VIEW.
- IN BONN, WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL TOLD PARLIAMENT:
- --THAT EUROPE IS NOT SEEKING A CONFRONTATION WITH THE UNITED STATES;
- --THAT THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT WOULD "DO ALL IN ITS POWER

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TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES" IN THE FACE OF TROUBLES IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE WHICH HE SAID ARE "OF A SERIOUS NATURE".

IN BRUSSELS, COMMON MARKET OFFICIALS:

- --CONSIDERED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S "SOFTER LINE TOWARDS EUROPE IS A STEP TOWARD DEFUSING THE HIGHLY CHARGED ATMOSPHERE OF TRANS-ATLAENTIC RELATIONS" AND MAKES CLEAR THAT BOTH SIDES WOULD LIKE TO GET AWAY FROM POLEMICS TO TALK FRANKLY AND TRY TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S FEARS;
- --RECEIVED "WITH SOME RELIEF" THE PRESIDENT'S REASSURANCES

 THAT HE DOES NOT SUPPORT CALLS FOR UNILATERAL WITHDRAWAL OF

 US TROOPS FROM EUROPE;
- --DESCRIBED CLOSE US-WESTERN EUROPEAN COOPERATION "IN ALL FIELDS" AS "VITAL" FOR MUTUAL PROSPERITY AND WORLD POLITICAL STABILITY:
- --CONSIDERED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S "SLIGHTLY MELLOWER TONE"

 AND THE DETERMINATION OF BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN

 TO STAY OUT OF ANY "STRUGGLE AGAINST AMERICA" AS OPENING THE

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WAY FOR A NEW EFFORT TO END US-COMMON MARKET RIFTS.

IN BRUSSELS. THE INFLUENTIAL MODERATEMNEWSPAPER LE SOIR WROTE OF TRANS-ATLANTIC DIFFERENCES AS "A FAMILY QUARREL" AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF BASIC SOLIDARITY, BUT WARNED OF POSSIBLE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS.

FROM MOSCOW, TASS REPORTED THAT THE PRESIDENT:

- -- "HAS EMPHASIZED A MAJOR ROLE OF COOPERATION" BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION IN ENSURING PERMANENT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO MEET THE INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THE COUNTRIES OF THE AREA, AND THAT WITHOUT US-SOVIET COOPERATION THERE CAN BE NO PERMANENT PEMACE THERE
- -- TRUSTED" THAT THIS WOULD BE HIGH ON THE AGENDA FOR HIS MEETING WITH GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV LATER IN THE YMEAR;
- --SAID THAT TALKS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ON PROBLEMS OF SECURITY HAVE GONE "VERY WELL", BUT THAT DISCUSSIONS IN THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FIELD "HAVE NOT GONE WELL." AS A RESULT. THE PRESIDENT HAS

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POSTPONED HIS VISIT TO WESTERN EUROPE. LTASS QUOTED THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING THAT THE COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES "HAVE ACTUALLY TAKEN A POSITION WHICH IS HOSTILE TO THE UNITED STATES."3

IN TOKYO THE NATIONAL DAILY YOMIURI SHIMMBUN EDITORIALIZED THAT:

- -- RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND WESTERN EUROPE HAVE BEEN BADLY SHAKEN, WITH BITTERNESS REPLACING AN ALLIANCE ONCE BASED ON MUTUAL TRUST";
- -- FRENCH HOSTILITY HAS BEEN MATCHED BY THE ACRIMONY OF PRESIDENT NIXON AND SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER".

THE JAPANESE EDITORIAL ALSO STATED THAT:

--EXPANSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY HAS NOT LED TO FULL EUROPEAN UNITY BUT HAS INCREASED A SENSE OF EUROPEAN INDEPENDENCE AND, SINCE THEY FEAR DOMINATION BY THE TWO SUPERPOWERS, IT IS ONLY NATEBURAL THAT THE EUROPEANS ARE TRYING TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN IDENTITY IN WORLD POLITICS. THE MAJOR PROBMLEM IN US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS NOW IS HOW

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